

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)
IN THE MATTER OF:)
COMPLAINT C2012-066)
State Ethics Commission,)
Complainant;)
vs.) **DECISION AND ORDER**
Robert P. Grabowski,)
Respondent.)
_____)

STATE ETHICS
COMMISSION

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RECEIVED

This matter comes before the State Ethics Commission by virtue of a complaint filed by the Commission on January 11, 2012. On March 21, 2012, pursuant to S. C. Code Ann. § 8-13-320(10)(i)(Supp. 2011), the State Ethics Commission reviewed the above-captioned complaint charging the Respondent, Robert P. Grabowski, with a violation of Section 8-13-1110 and probable cause was found.

Present at the hearing on July 18, 2012 were Commission Members Phillip Florence, Jr., Chair, Edward E. Duryea, and George Carlton Manley. Respondent was not present, but was duly noticed. Complainant was represented by Cathy L. Hazelwood, General Counsel.

FINDINGS OF FACTS

Having carefully reviewed the evidence presented, the Commission finds as fact

1. The Respondent, Robert P. Grabowski, is a member of Horry County Council and he is required to file an annual Statement of Economic Interests form (SEI) prior to April 15th of each year.

2. Respondent did attempt to file his 2011 SEI by mail on August 12, 2011. This report was returned to him on August 15, 2011 with instructions to file the report electronically.

3. On January 12, 2012 Respondent complied by electronically filing his 2011 SEI and he paid the \$100.00 on April 5, 2012.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the Findings of Fact, the Commission concludes, as a matter of law:

1. During all times relevant, the Respondent, Robert P. Grabowski, was a public official, as defined by Section 8-13-100(27).

2. The State Ethics Commission has personal and subject matter jurisdiction

3. Sections 8-13-1110 and 8-13-1140 provide that certain public officials shall file a Statement of Economic Interests at the time of assuming the duties of the position and annually thereafter prior to April 15.

4. Section 8-13-320(10)(i) provides in part:

(10) to conduct its investigation, inquiries, and hearings in this manner:

(i) . . . If the Commission finds probable cause to believe that a violation of this chapter has occurred, the Commission may waive further proceedings if the respondent takes action to remedy or correct the alleged violation.

DECISION

Based upon the evidence presented, the filing of the disclosure form and the payment of the late filing penalty, the State Ethics Commission has determined that the Respondent, Robert P. Grabowski, has complied with the disclosure requirements of the Ethics Reform Act of 1991. THEREFORE, in accordance with Section 8-13-320(10)(i),

and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, the State Ethics Commission
waives further proceedings.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 15th DAY OF Aug., 2012.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION



PHILLIP FLORENCE, JR.
CHAIRMAN

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA